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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

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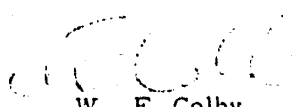
MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : Secrecy and Compartmentation

1. Over the past several years there have been numerous recommendations and complaints concerning the present security classification systems, and particularly its intelligence compartmentation aspects. Suggestions have been made to alter the compartmentation procedures to allow wider dissemination of information, while at the same time, separate concerns have been expressed about protecting vulnerable aspects of sensitive programs. Despite the diversity of opinions in the community, I believe they are not mutually exclusive. There is an urgent need to get intelligence to the essential users, as well as to protect those secrets whose compromise would jeopardize intelligence effectiveness. The objective of security policy must be to strike a balance between these needs.

2. Although there have been some useful studies on the subject, I believe it is now imperative that these problems be examined in a comprehensive way and that policy guidelines be developed to serve as a basis for designing a simplified classification system which will provide the necessary protection of intelligence sources and methods and will facilitate access to the results of the intelligence process by all consumers who need the intelligence product.

3. The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that I have asked Dr. Edward Proctor to chair a group of senior intelligence officials from NSA, DIA and State to study this problem. This group is to prepare recommendations on an expeditious basis for the DCI which I anticipate will subsequently be submitted to the USIB for consideration.

  
W. E. Colby